

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-9 are pending in the present application. Claims 2-6 and 8 are amended, and Claim 1 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

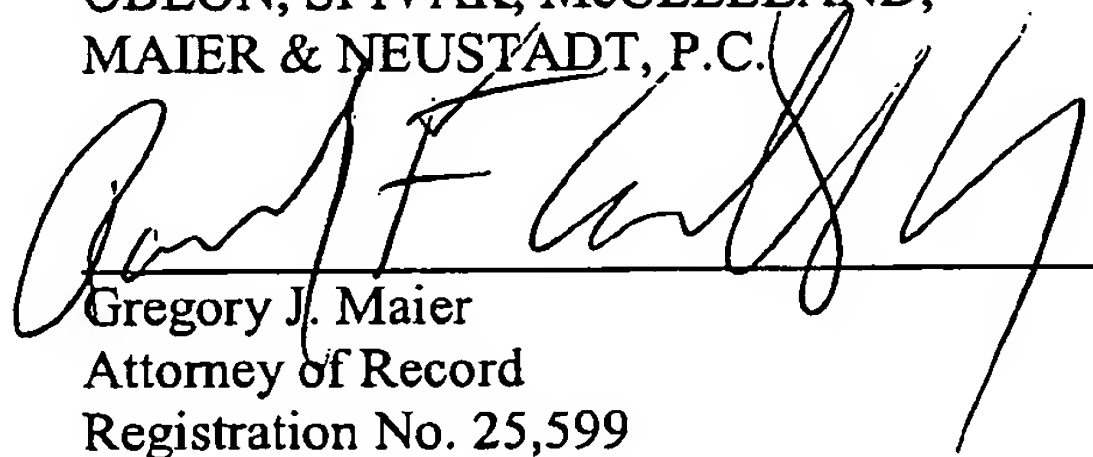
In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,239,746 to Pipon et al. or under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by Madyastha et al. and Claims 2-6 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In view thereof, Claims 2-6 are rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base Claim 1. Further, independent Claim 8 is amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 2. Accordingly, Claims 2-9 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in view of the indication of allowable subject matter, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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